

Letters to The Times

Cooperating With Castro

Cuba Seen as Neither Satellite of Communists nor of United States

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW YORK TIMES:
Many Americans must have suffered in silence while watching Adlai Stevenson sadly attempt to defend United States policy toward Cuba before a world audience (the General Assembly debate April 17). Mr. Stevenson must know, as does every properly informed person, that the American Central Intelligence Agency, under Allen Dulles, has been planning and financing the training and equipping of Cuban and other counter-revolutionary forces in the United States and Latin America for many months.

The Nation magazine first broke the story Nov. 19, 1960, through a report of Dr. Ronald Hilton, director of the Institute of Hispanic-American Studies, Stanford University, that the C. I. A. had acquired a large tract of land in Guatemala, at a price in excess of \$1 million, for training of troops for invasion of Cuba. The United States press, radio and television networks have been full of accounts since that time of troop mobilization, their training, flying in and out of Florida and other points, and of Cuban counter-revolutionary leaders conferring with United States leaders on the organization and composition of the rebel government necessary for the invasion.

While it is true President Kennedy has dissociated himself officially from direct military support with United States forces, he has neither denied nor repudiated other types of United States aid well known to the rest of the world. And it must be obvious to everyone now that the equipment used in the invasion could only have originated in the United States.

Errors Repeated

The Eisenhower Administration, in almost every detail, repeated the errors of the Stalin regime against Tito, 1948, when it embargoed trade with Cuba, 1960, and broke diplomatic relations January, 1961. Now it appears that the Kennedy Administration is prepared to repeat the same errors in Cuba that the Khrushchev Administration made in Hungary, 1956. It is generally believed that Communist tyranny helped bring on the Hungarian revolt, 1956, and Presidential candidate John F. Kennedy in a speech at Cincinnati Oct. 6, 1960, said in effect that capitalist avarice contributed greatly to the Cuban revo-

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It is much too late to believe that any action, however outrageous, can still be taken against a nation or people by the simple technique of labeling them Communists or Communist satellites. Few, if any, among the peoples or leaders of the underdeveloped areas of the world are any longer impressed by this type of sloganizing propaganda. And not many even among our "allies" believe it any more.

It is important to remember that Tito did not destroy communism by his deviationist tendencies and he did not become a capitalist satellite by accepting capitalist aid. And Castro is not likely to destroy capitalism by his humanism, nor is he likely to turn over control of Cuba to any foreign country or alien ideology, whatever our official propaganda and mass "information" media may proclaim.

Dedicated Nationalist

I was in Cuba last December and January and the Cuban Government was not a Communist Government then and I don't believe it is now. I know of no informed person who really believes that Castro is a Communist or is controlled by Communists. He is a dedicated Cuban nationalist and humanist. And so long as he lives and heads the Cuban Government, Cuba will not become a Communist satellite; nor will it become a United States satellite again.

The Soviet bloc has learned to live with the deviationist Tito and Western capitalism will have to learn soon to live with mavericks like Castro. Neither the Soviet bloc nor the United States bloc has either the power or wisdom to rule the world. If the world gendarmerie concept proved a failure in the days of the sailing ships, what chance has it in the time of space ships? Our choice, would seem to be between cooperation and catastrophe.

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Chapel Hill, S. C., April 9, 1961

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